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A Very MU Christmas

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IN THE SUMMER OF 1945, THE ASHES OF EUROPE WERE CHEERFUL WITH THE ROSE-COLORED WILD BLOSSOMS AND TENDER EDIBLE STALKS OF FIREWEED...

BUT FIREWEED ISN'T WINTER-HARDY. IN THE FOLLOWING HARSH WINTER, THE REFUGEE AND THE DISPLACED DIDN'T EVEN FIND THE ROADSIDE WEED TO NIBBLE. THEY WERE LUCKY TO FIND DACHHASE.* ON THAT BITTER CHRISTMAS EVE, ONE OF THE MANY THOUGHT HIMSELF LUCKY TO FIND A WALL OUT OF THE WIND...

<BARN!>

<NO ROOF — WHF! GOOD ENOUGH.>

=GASP=

*"ROOF-RABBIT." GUESS.

<CAN REST — THAT'S A BLESSING.>

GOTT... <SO HUNGRY, I'M ALMOST GLAD THIS BARN'S EMPTY. DON'T WANT TO FIND OUT WHAT **ELSE** I'LL PICK THROUGH TO FILL MY BELLY...>

<YOUR OWN FAULT, DEAR. YOU'RE ONLY FOOLING YOURSELF. YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR HIM SINCE YOU WERE RELEASED LAST SPRING...>

«IF HE WERE STILL ALIVE, YOU'D'VE FOUND A **TRACE** OF HIM— NICHT?

HEY!

«GOOD HEAVENS! A CHILD!»

«WHAT'RE **YOU** DOIN' HERE?»

JUST RESTING, DEAR.»

«YOU AINT HIDING, ARE YOU?»

"HIDING?" «NO, DEAR.»

«LEMME SEE YOUR PAPERS.»

«MY PAPERS? WHATEVER FOR, DEAR?»

«I WANNA SEE IF YOURE LOOSE AN' **LEGAL**. LAST ONE GOT PICKED UP FOR PHONEY PAPERS.»

?

«ALL RIGHT, DEAR, I SHOW THEM TO EVERYONE ELSE — I DONT SEE WHY YOU SHOULDNT SEE THEM.»

«HAPPY?

HM... «LOOK RIGHT. HARD T' TELL — AMIS* GOT SUCH **WEIRD** HANDWRITING.»

"PFIRSICH?"

«YES?»

«YOUR NAMES **PFIRSICH**?* YOU GOT NAMED AFTER A **FRUIT**!?»

* AMERICANS

* PEACH

<WE CANT HELP WHAT WERE NAMED CHILD. IT EVIDENTLY SUITED ME AT THE TIME.>

NA—<MEANS YER FOR REAL. NOBODY MAKES UP A NAME LIKE THAT TO HIDE WITH.>

<OPEN UP YER COAT — AN' YER SHIRT, IF YOU GOT ONE.>

<EXCUSE ME?>

<I GOTTA FEEL YER STOMACH?

<WHAT? WHY?>

<IM NOT GONNA HURT YA! JUST LEMME FEEL YER STOMACH!>

<BUT—>

<COME ON! MY HANDS GETTIN' COLD!>

<THATS BETTER. HM... JA... NOT BAD.>

?

<NO, DEAR. I DONT SMOKE.>

<SHIT YOU DONT. EVERYBODY SMOKES. LEMME SMELL YER BREATH.>

NA-?

<CLOSE YER COAT UP BEFORE YOU CHILL YER STOMACH. SKINNY AS YOU ARE, IT'D KILL YOU — AN' THEN YOU'D BE NO GOOD. GOT A CIGARETTE?>

SNF< I'LL BE DAMNED — YOU DONT SMOKE.>

«THAT'S EVEN BETTER — I WON'T HAVETA KEEP YOU IN FAGS. BUT HOW D'YOU KEEP GOIN', WITHOUT SMOKES?»

«OTHER — THINGS — KEEP ME GOING.»

«SHEIß — «MEANS I C'N SMOKE WHAT I GOT — AN' NOT HAVETA FEAR YOU GRABBIN' 'EM OFF ME. TH' LAST ONE WAS BAD FOR THAT — AN' MY EATS TOO, TH' HOG! GUESS I'M LUCKY HE GOT PICKED UP.»

«WHERE DOES SOMEONE YOUR AGE GET CIGARETTES?»

«FROM TH' AMIS. OPEN YER COAT — I'M «OLD.»

«OH, JA — I WAS RIGHT. YOU DO HAVE A WARM STOMACH. JA, YOU'LL DO, JUST FINE.»

«I TAKE IT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR A PARTNER?»

«NO — FOR A HEATER. WHEN YER LITTLE AN' SKINNY, LIKE ME, Y' FREEZE FAST. I NEED ME A GROWNUP — YOU'RE BIGGER, AN' YOU PUT OUT ENOUGH HEAT T' KEEP US BOTH FROM FREEZIN'.»

«YOU SHOULDVE FOUND A WOMAN. THEY'RE — PLUMPER.»

«WOMAN? PFUI! KEEP THEIR HEAT T' THEMSELVES. AN' THEY'RE LOOKIN' FOR THEIR OWN MEN.»

GOTT, YOU'RE BONEY.»

«BUT SURELY—»

«LOOK, IF YOU'RE AS TIRED AS YOU LOOK, Y'NEED SLEEP. LET'S SAVE TH' CHATTER FOR TH' ROAD.»

ß YAWN=

Z

Z

<WAKE UP! CHRISTMAS! GOT YA A PRESENT!>

GASP

<YAWN< <MORNING ALREADY? KIND, I HAVENT SLEPT SO WELL IN **WEEKS.** YOU SHOULD'VE LET ME SLEEP.>

<DANGEROUS IN THIS COLD. HERE— MERRY CHRISTMAS.>

<GOOD HEAVENS, IT **IS** CHRISTMAS, ISNT IT? WHATS THIS?>

<YOUR NEW HAT! C'MON, LETS SWAP.>

<BUT DEAR, I DONT **NEED** A HAT—>

JAWOHL! <KEEP RUNNIN' 'ROUND IN THIS ARMY RAG AN' YOU'LL KEEP GETTIN' YER PAPERS CHECKED.>

<'SIDES — THEM STUPID AMIS ARE **CRAZY** T' SWAP FOR GERMAN MILITARY SHIT. WE COULD LIVE ON THIS HAT FOR A **MONTH.**>

<WHOTS WRONG?>

<I— I HAVENT WORN A CIVILIAN HAT IN THREE YEARS — NOT EVEN ON LEAVE. FEELS STRANGE — LIKE A NEW START. WHERE DID YOU—?>

NEIN— <DONT TELL ME WHERE YOU GOT IT. I DONT WANT TO KNOW.>

<GOOD. I WASNT GONNA TELL YOU ANYWAY.>

<YOU'RE GOING TO WEAR MY CAP?>

<I CAN — I'M WAY TOO YOUNG T'HAVE BEEN IN THE ARMY. TH' AMIS 'LL JUST THINK IT'S CUTE — AN' BE DYIN' TO SWAP!>

<ON T' BREAKFAST — THERE'S AN AMI CAMP DOWN TH' ROAD, AN' THEY ALWAYS GOT MORE FOOD THAN'S GOOD FOR 'EM.>

"<FOOD — ?>"

<HA! A SENTRY! YOU STAY BACK HERE.>

<BUT I CAN'T LET YOU GO ALONE —>

SHIT. SENTRY — GO ON CHRISTMAS. FUCK.

<DON'T YOU KNOW NOTHIN'? AMIS ARE DIFF'RENT — Y'GOTTA KNOW HOW THEY THINK. IF Y' WAS A WOMAN, Y'D BE FINE — THEY'D WANNA SCREW YA. AN' FEEDIN' KIDS IS LIKE A GAME; THEY REALLY GET OFF ON PITY, BUT GROWN MEN THEY SHOOT OR SHIP OFF. NOW WATCH ME — AN' WAIT.>

<THIS DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT.>

HI, TCHOE! ZIGARETT? KANDY? SPAM?

A LIL' KRAUT KID! HI, HANS — WHADAYA KNOW?

ZIGARETT? BRET? FOR MAMA?

HEY! A KRAUT ARMY HAT — GOOD SHAPE, TOO. MAN, THIS'D GO OVER BACK HOME.

<MY HAT! NO FAIR!>

<GIMME MY HAT BACK, YOU SLIMEBALL! I'M NOT GIVIN' THAT AWAY. THAT'S FOR A TRADE — AN' A GOOD ONE!>

SAVE YER BREATH, KID — I DON'T SPEAK NAZI.

!

<IT'S MINE! IT BELONGED TO MY FATHER! I'LL TELL YER SERGEANT!>

TOUGH LUCK, KID.

!

GIFE DE BOY HIS HAT!

OOPS!

HENDER HOK,* KRAUT!

<SHIT!>

*HÄNDE HOCH = HANDS UP

HEY! KID! COME BACK HERE!

!

?

<I TOL' YOU NOT TO BUTT IN! NOW YOURE ON YOUR OWN!>

AWRIGHT, LUTYENS, WHATCHA GOT?

LOOTENAN' MOBLEY! CAUGHT A KRAUT SNEAKIN' UP ON TH' CAMP!

I CAME TO PROTECT D' CHILT!

SURE HE WAS — HE WAS USIN' A LIL' KID AS A DECOY!>

YOU VAS GOINK TO STEAL DAT CHILT'S HAT! DO NOT LIE TO YOUR OFFICER!

NOW, WHAT WOULD ONE'A MAH MEN WANT WITH SUM PO' KID'S HAT?

IT VAS **MY** HAT— I GIFED IT TO HIM. HE VANT TO **TRADE** IT— NOT HAFE IT GESTOHLEN!

YOU **BELIEVE** THIS NAZI, SIR!?

WHY'S THIS HAT WUTH STEALIN'?

IT IST **ARMY** CAP! GOOT FOR SOUVENIR. D' BOY VANT TO TRADE FOR **FOOD.**

IF IT'S ARMY, TH'N **YUH** ARMY, LESSEE YO' PAPERS.

MY PAPERS— DERE!

!

AH C'N TELL WITHOUT *LOOKIN'* AT 'EM— **YOU** BEEN AN OFFICER,

JA, SO?

Y' DONT SEEM EAGER T' HIDE IT.

VE, CANT "HIDE."

WELL— AS AN OFF'CER OF TH' ARMY WHUT CAUSED SO MUCH MIS'RY—

JA? NA, IT LOOK LIKE **ODDER** ARMIES,— DEY MAKE MISERY, TOO— LIKE STEALEN POOR HUNGRY CHILTREN'S FOOD FROM DEY MOUT'— ON CHRISTMAS!

!

N WASNT "FOOD," WAS A **HAT!**

WELL, WE'LL LEAVE TH' HAT FOR NOW. MAY I LOOK THROUGH Y' PAPUHS?

ACH, I HAFE NO CHOICE— BUT HOW KIND, DAT YOU ASK.

Y'CAN TELL MOBLEY'S FROM SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON; HE REALLY BELIEVES IN THAT "OFFICER-AND-GENTLEMAN" BULLSHIT.

"PFIRSICH— ROMMEL?" YOU AIN'T RELATED T' THE FIELD-MARSHAL?

YES, HE'S-

!?

!

HE-VAS- SUPPOSED TO BE SOME KINT DISTANT COUSIN, BUT I NEFER BEEN SURE.

WOW! ROMMEL'S COUSIN!

CHERMANY IS A SMALL COUNTRY— VE ARE ALL SOMEHOW RELATED.

CAN WE HAVE HIM TO CHRISTMAS DINNER, SIR? CAN I GO TELL TH' GUYS?

SHOULDN'T LET Y' — BUT GIMME YER RIFLE, AN' I'LL STAND FOR YOU.

COME RIGHT BACK! Y' HEAR ME, LUTYENS!

!

YESSIR! WOW! WAIT'LL THEY HEAR!

Y'HAVETA FORGIVE LUTYENS, SUH— HE'S FROM CALIFORNIA, AN' THEY REALLY BELIEVE IN HOLLYWOOD AN' THE STAR-SYSTEM OUT THERE.

I KNEW ERWIN VAS POPULAR— BUT I NOT KNOW HE HAFE FANS ON YOUR SIDE!

"ERWIN-?"

CLOSER'N "COUSIN", WA'NT HE?

BITTE- LET IT GO.

TUG!

!

Y'SURE-?

HE IST DEAD, NOW- IT DOES NOT MATTER.

<THEY AINT SHOT YA, YET- THEY GONNA FEED US?>

DOESS ORDERLIES GET TO COME, TOO?

SINCE LAST NIGHT.

THAT'S YO "ORDERLY?"

<WATCH 'EM- THEYRE SNEAKY.>

HERE COMES LUTYENS, BACK. C'MON, CUH'NEL POMMEL — AN' WHUT'S TH' LIL' ONE'S NAME?

<WHAT IS YOUR NAME?>

<CALL ME "HANS."

<IS THAT YOUR NAME?>

<NO - BUT TH' DUMB AMIS LIKE IT, CUZ THEY CAN SAY IT.>

HE SAYS IT "HANS."

HANS IT IS. IS HANS HUNGRY?

"IS HANS HUNGRY?"

<I'M STUFFED - IF I LICKED A PLATE, I'D BUST.>

I NEVER SAW A KID EAT LIKE THAT.

I NEVER SAW ANYBODY EAT THAT MUCH SPAM® — AND LIVE.

<I TAKE BACK WHAT I SAID 'BOUT YOU AMIS, YOU INVENTED SPAM.>

T'ANK YOU FOR DINNER. I DID NOT EXPECT CHRISTMAS TO BE SO NICE.

SURE, Y'WONT STAY? WE NEED INTER-PRETERS AN' LIASON ASSISTANTS.

NEIN — I MUST SEARCH FOR SOMEVON I LOFE — VERY MUCH.

GOOD GAWD, MAN —

THEY'S HUNNERDS OF THOUSANDS OF LOST FOLKS OUT THERE, EV'RYBODY'S LOOKIN' AN' NOT MANY FINDIN'. IT COULD TAKE Y'ALL YO' LIFE!

DEN IT BEST, I START.

UH — WHUT 'BOUT TH' BOY?

O BITTE — KEEP HIM. FEED HIM, TEACH HIM TO TRUST. VHEN HE LEARN ENGLISCH, HE VILL HELP YOU.

<THIS WAR DIDN'T HAPPEN TO THE AMERICANS LIKE IT DID THE REST OF US. THEY CAN RAISE "HANS" TO BE HAPPY AND INNOCENT AGAIN, AS A CHILD SHOULD BE, HE WONT MISS ME, AND HE SHOULD BE HAPPY WITH THE AMIS — AH-AMERICANS.>

<THEY'RE THE ONLY PRESENT I CAN EVER HOPE TO GIVE HIM.>

<MERRY CHRISTMAS, HANS!

<ABANDON ME WITH THE AMIS, WILL HE? IF IT DON'T SNOW, I'LL FIND HIM — >

<— AND THEN HE'S GONNA HEAR IT!>

<≥SNORT!≤ DIN' GET FAR, DID HE? GROWNUPS — USELESS!>

<HEY! WHAT D'YOU THINK YER UP TO!?>

HANS! <GO BACK TO THE AMERICANS!>

<LIKE HELL! DO I LOOK LIKE A PET!?>

<HANS, YOU'RE NOT A PET; THEY'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU.>

<I SEEN HOW THEY "TAKE CARE" — THEM AN' TH' REST OF TH' GROWNUPS!>

<THEN WHY COME TO ME? I CANT TAKE CARE OF YOU!>

<I CAN'T TAKE CARE OF ANY-BODY — ANY MORE — NOT EVEN MYSELF — ≥SOB≤>

<I'M HOPELESS. ≥SOB≤ I'VE FAILED EVERYONE. ≥SNF≤ LOST EVERYONE — ONE BY ONE...>

<AW THAT'S ENUF! STOP WHININ' DAMNIT!>

<YER A QUEER, AINTCHA?>

≥GASP≤

<WHAT—?>

<YOU KNOW — QUEER. BENT, YOUD GIVE CIGARETTES TO A STUD 'FORE YOUD GIVE 'EM TO A SKIRT — FOR TH' SAME THING.>

UH—

JA, <I'M A "QUEER!">

<THERE! THAT'S WHY I'M STICKIN' WITH YA! AN' DONT SAY YOU AINT — YOU TALK IN YOUR SLEEP. SPICEY STUFF.>

<CHILD, I DONT UNDERSTAND =SNFF=>

<BEIN' A QUEER'S DANGEROUS. THEY USED T' HANG 'EM — AN' THE AMIS ARE KEEPIN' 'EM LOCKED UP.>

<I KNOW, DEAR. GOD HELP ME, THE THINGS I KNOW.>

<BUT YOU'RE STILL LOOKIN' FOR THIS GUY YOU LOVE!>

<NOBODY REALLY LOVES ANYBODY — THEY JUST WANT STUFF OUTVE 'EM. BUT YOU REALLY LOVE THIS STUD — YER RISKIN' YER BUTT FOR HIM. IF YOU THINK I'M GONNA LOSE THE FIRST MENSCH* IVE SEEN WHO CAN REALLY LOVE — YER OUTTA YER FRIGGIN' NUT!>

<IT PROBABLY SEEMS STRANGE TO YOU, HANS.>

<DAMN' STRAIGHT.>

*PERSON

<SO GET OFF YER BUTT! WE GOTTA FIND SHELTER FORE IT FREEZES HARD. KOMM DOCH! I NEED YA, AN' I AINT LOSIN' YA JUST CUZ YER FEELIN' SORRY FOR YERSELF!>

"AND A LITTLE CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM..."

=SNF=

<STOP GRIZZLIN'! YOULL CHAP YER NOSE.>

FARR 92 ©

Chris-missed

There she is.. it's December 24... and she's holed up under her full-spectrum lights completely OBLIVIOUS... drawing AWAY...

SINGING IT

SHEILA AND THE JAVICO

Gee... this is FINALLY starting to look.. GOOD!

© 1992 Roberta Gregory

Come sit with me an' we'll contemplate the birth of our Lord an' Saviour, Jesus Christ...

BEAT IT!

C'mon.. I'll take you out an' buy you some LAVISHLY DECADENT PRESENTS!

GO AWAY!

Hey.. let's go out an' sing some CHRISTMAS CAROLS an' decorate a TREE..

@#%&!?!

Come on, Bitchy.. YOUR TURN!

Nothing doing... I **HATE** CHRISTMAS!

Time for some DRASTIC MEASURES.. Where's the FUSE BOX?

In the GARAGE..

Ptoo..!

?

WAAAHHH!

Isn't this LOVELY? SURE the heat's off, but we have this nice FIREPLACE.. and each OTHER..

And, we've got this great FEAST.. 'cause this stuff'll ROT if it stays in the FRIDGE..

Silent & night...

But, I gotta get that story done by FRIDAY..

Maybe you CAN'T toast PICKLES...

DAMN STUPID APPLIANCE..

... tis the Season to cut some SLACK!

Merry Bloody Xmas

by Colin Upton



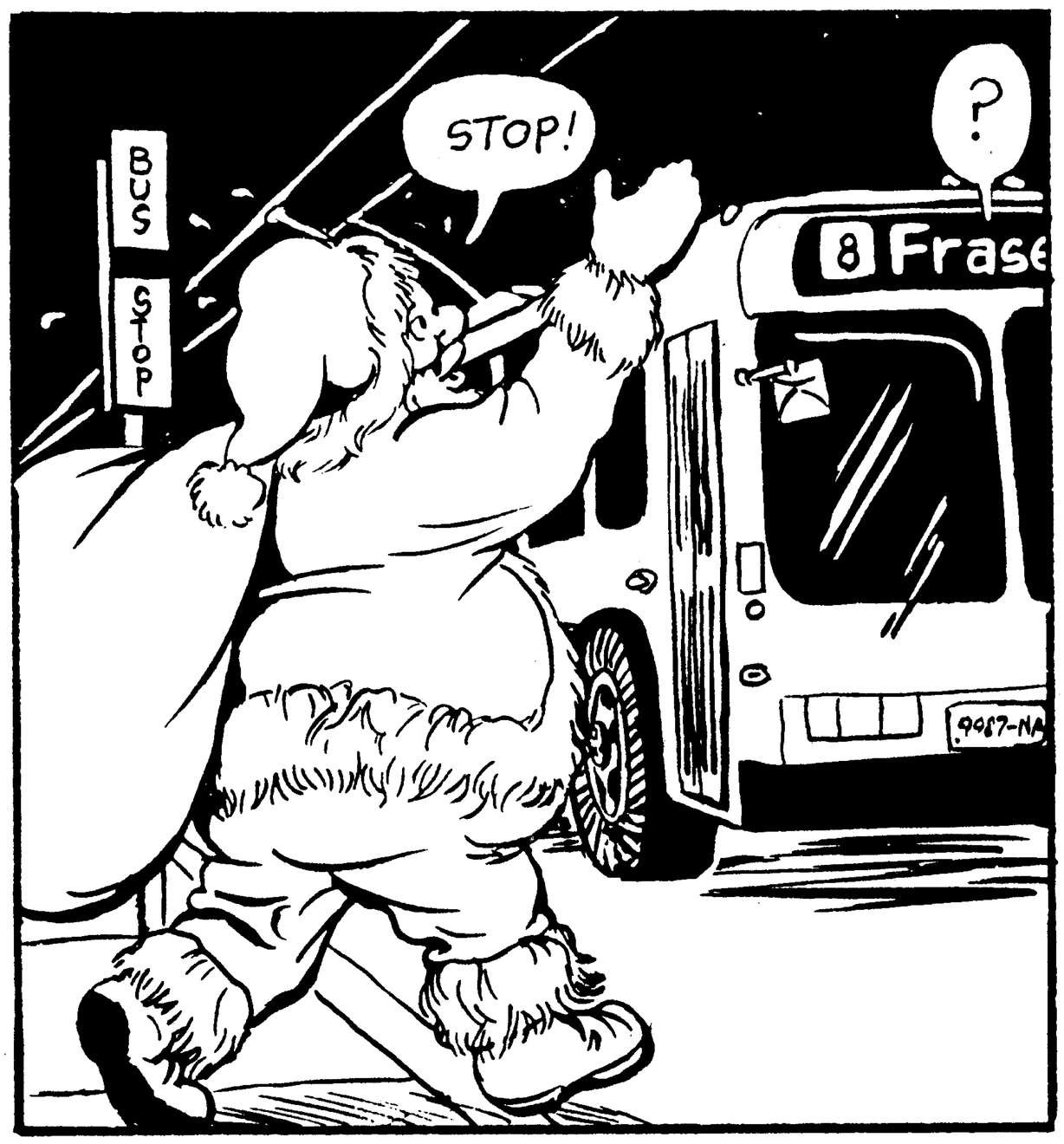
















YOU SEE MY SLEIGH BROKE DOWN A FEW BLOCKS AWAY, I LEFT MY ELVES REPAIRING IT BUT I STILL HAVE MANY PRESENTS AS YET UNDELIVERED! MAY I BORROW BOTH YOU AND YOUR BUS TO DRIVE ME?

WHY ME?

INDEED "SANTA", I WOULD LIKE NOTHING MORE THAN TO HELP YOU BUT THE TRANSIT AUTHORITIES WOULD BE VERY UPSET IF I LEFT MY ROUTE.

I UNDERSTAND YOUR HESITATION BUT I'M SURE THEY WOULD UNDERSTAND THE NEED! WE WOULD BE GONE BUT A SHORT TIME, MY ELVES WILL COVER FOR YOU! NO ONE WOULD NOTICE! THE HAPPINESS OF SO MANY DEPENDS ON US! I HAVEN'T REACHED MOST OF THE PACIFIC RIM WITH GIFTS YET!

COME ON DRIVER! IT'S SANTA CLAUS!!

OH GOODNESS. DON'T YOU START!

BUT IF I CAN'T FIND SOME WAY OF GETTING AROUND ALL THE GOOD LITTLE GIRLS AND BOYS OF MELBOURNE WON'T GET ANY PRESENTS.

WHAT IS IT ABOUT THE FRASER BUS?

SIGH! EVEN IF I WANTED TO TAKE YOU ACROSS THE PACIFIC, HOW COULD I? THIS IS A TROLLEY BUS! I CANNOT LEAVE THE WIRES, WHAT CAN I DO?

I'M 'FRAID HE'S RIGHT THERE, SANTA.

JOES TAVERN

...BUSES CAN'T FLY!

JOES TAVERN

AND WHAT IF BUSES COULD FLY?

WELL IF THE BUS COULD FLY THAT WOULD BE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT MATTER...

EEEEEEEE...

...EEEEEEEEEEE..

2883

Fraser

BUY!

MERRY X-MAS

...YAAAAAH...

HO HO HO!

NO! DON'T LET GO OF THE WHEEL!

...AHHH!!

THERE! YOU'RE GETTING THE HANG OF IT!

WHOOSH!!

TANG!

8 Fraser

WE ARE FLYING!

JOES TAVERN

WILL YOU HELP ME?

WHA-HOOOO!

BUT SANTA, I'M NOT...

I'M NOT A CHRISTIAN.

HO HO HO! I WAS NOT AWARE THAT GENEROSITY WAS AN EXCLUSIVELY CHRISTIAN VIRTUE.

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE SANTA'S LITTLE HELPER?

ME?

WHERE TO FIRST, SANTA?

COLIN UPTON '92

YOU NEED A TRANSFER SIR?

...OUR NORMAL BUS SERVICE, HUH, HAS BEEN INTERRUPTED, HOWEVER...

24•12•37 CR
UNIFICATUM DEPOT SIGMA
NEOTANEGA
WOLF 257
by MIKE DASHOW ©1992

KSHANG!

SHHH!

KSHANG!

KTHUNK.

KSHANG!

KSHANG!

KSHANG!

KSHANG!

KSHANG!

MAJORLY SMOOTH, TOVIN!

WELL, WE'RE IN!

WARP WEAPONS

THROUGH

THROUGH

PLASTISYNTH PRODUCTS ARE OVER THIS WAY!

BLUNT WEAPONS

DONS

MERS

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, PLASTISYNTHS?!? I THOUGHT WE WERE GETTING ARMAMENTS!

NOT THIS TIME. WE NEED PARTY SUPPLIES.

WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO, GARROTE THE UNIFICATUM MILITIA WITH STREAMERS?!?

LOOK, NEXT TIME WE RISK OUR BUTTS BREAKING INTO A UNIFICATUM SUPPLY DEPOT, IT CAN BE FOR WEAPONS AND STUFF...

...BUT THIS TIME I PLANNED IT, AND WE'RE GETTING OUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING DONE EARLY THIS YEAR!

WE'VE GOT A FASCIST OLIGARCHY TO OVERTHROW AND FIONA HAS TO STOCK UP ON @★!?#% !! NAPKINS...!

HERE'S OUR LIST...

CHRISTMAS?!? FIONA, IS THIS ANOTHER OF YOUR RIDICULOUS CUSTOMS FROM CAPELLA?

YEAH, BUT I THINK IT'S FROM SOMEPLACE ELSE. MY DAD'S ORIGINALLY FROM FOMALHAUT, SO MAYBE THERE.

SO WHAT'S THIS ONE CELEBRATE?

BASICALLY, IT'S ABOUT BEING NICE TO YOUR FELLOW SAPIENT AND GIVING LOTS OF GIFTS.

I THINK ITS ORIGIN IS SOMETHING MONETARY - A YEARLY BOOST TO THE ECONOMY BY URGING MASS CONSUMER SPENDING.

MOST OF THE THRILL IS IN ALL OF THE MEANINGLESS TRADITIONS WE USED TO FOLLOW WHEN I WAS A GIRL. SILLY SONGS, SOCKS WITH CARBONITE IN THEM...

WHAT ARE THESE SEQUENTIAL XENON FLARES FOR?

THEY'RE CALLED "CHRISTMAS LIGHTS." YOU STRING THEM AROUND YOUR CONAPT TO WARD OFF EVIL SPIRITS ...TAX COLLECTORS AND SUCH...

PROSTHETIC FOREHEADS

BODY ARMOR

UNDERWEAR

LINGERIE

CODPIECES

INFLATABLE GUNS

OH, NOW THIS IS WHAT YOU NEED!

EVAC SUITS - FUCHSIA

EVAC SUITS - CAMOFLAUGE

AN EVAC SUIT? ME IN A BRIGHT RED EVAC SUIT?!? NEGATORY!

EVAC SUITS - GR

BUT SOMEONE'S GOT TO DRESS UP AS SANTIKLOS AND GIVE PRESENTS TO THE LITTLE ONES...!

WELL, GET SOMEONE ELSE TO DO IT ... MAYBE TOSH...

OH, BUT YOU'D LOOK REALLY SEXY AS SANTIKLOS!

YOU THINK SO? REALLY? WELL... MAYBE...FOR THE KIDS...

WHAT'S ALL THIS FOR?

A DRINK CALLED EGGNOG. YOU'LL LIKE IT...

IT'S ONE PART OVOGRAN, ONE PART LACTOGRAN, AND TWELVE PARTS SYNTHE-VITAE.

OVO GRAN

LACTO GRAN

JUST WHAT I NEED... YOU GETTING ME TOTALLY WARPED AGAIN!

HEY, TOVIN...

YEAH...?

MISSILES

SMACK!

ANOTHER HOLIDAY CUSTOM. KISSING UNDER MISSILES!

NOW THERE'S A DECENT TRADITION!

SHHH! I HEAR SOMETHING!

KCHK

?

BE RIGHT BACK...

DON'T MOVE! HANDS IN THE AIR!

YOU HAVE BEEN APREHENDED IN THE PROCESS OF APPROPRIATING WITHOUT A PROPER REQUISITION REQUEST SUPPLIES FROM A UNIFICATUM SUPPLY DEPOT, A VIOLATION OF NEOTANEGA CIVIL CODE BZ-1579 AND PUNISHABLE BY A MINIMUM SENTENCE OF 3 STANDARD YEARS ENFORCED PENAL SERVITUDE. ANY ATTEMPT TO RESIST ARREST, ESCAPE, OR ATTACK, SUBDUE, BRIBE OR DISSUADE THE ARRESTING OFFICER FROM HIS OR HER APPOINTED DUTY WILL INCREASE THE PENALIZATION WHICH IS YOUR DUE UNDER STATUTES OF CIVIL CODE -20421 AND WILL WARRANT THE OF NECESSARY FORCE AS MED APPROPRIATE BY THE ESTING OFFICER.

I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMEONE ELSE... WHERE IS SHE?

SLAM!

FIONA... GET OUT OF THE WAY!

TOVIN, IT'S CHRISTMAS! "B E NICE TO YOUR FELLOW SAPIENT," RIGHT? IT WOULD BE WRONG TO SHOOT HIM NOW!

CAN WE TAKE HIM HOME AND SHOOT HIM AFTER THE HOLIDAYS?

I HAVE A BETTER IDEA...

?

PLEASE DON'T REPORT US!

AFTER ALL, WE DID LET YOU LIVE!

THANKS! MERRY CHRISTMAS!

...AND THANKS FOR THE GUN!

TOVIN, ONE MORE THING... THIS GUN!

MERRY CHRISTMAS, CUTIE! I LOVE YOU!

WOW! THAT GUARD'S GUN... IT'S AN XL-510981K HYPERPHASE BLASTER!

THIS THING IS GORGEOUS!

JUST WHAT I WANTED!

CAN WE PLEASE GO HOME?

DID YOU KNOW THIS BEAUTY HAS A 7.2 MS IGNITION THRESHHOL AND CHECK THIS OUT! NERUDA-TSKAI® INERTIA RECOIL DAMPERS! THIS "CHRISTMAS" DEAL IS OKAY HEY, LOOK! A CHIROPTERA® TRACKING SYSTEM! MAN, WON'T TOSH BE JEALOUS! CAN WE COME BACK NEXT WEEK? MAYBE W CAN STEAL SOME OF

END

Before he became a prince on another world, Rhudiprrt was a man on earth.

He had served his country bravely, but love always eluded him.

At the end of his life Warren Schafer had only his cat DELILAH...

...And they grew old together....

RHUDIPRRT-THE PRINCE OF FUR PRESENTS...

THE Dead Mouse!

written by DWIGHT R. DECKER

drawn by... TERI S. WOOD

RRIIINNG!

EH?

HELLO?

WARREN? THIS IS CHARLIE.

I'M SORRY TO HAVE TO TELL YOU THIS ON CHRISTMAS EVE. BUT I THOUGHT YOU'D WANT TO KNOW.

JENNY JUST DIED.

OH MY...

...I HAVEN'T THOUGHT ABOUT HER IN YEARS.

I KNOW SHE "DEAR JOHNNED" YOU RIGT BEF D-DAY AND SHE MARRIED TWO OR THREE TIMES OVER THE YEARS, BUT SHE DIDN'T FORGET YOU.

SHE WAS ASKING FOR YOU AT THE END...

...LIKE SHE THOUGHT IT WAS STILL 1944.

THANKS FOR CALLING, CHARLIE.

KEEP IN TOUCH.

ANOTHER CHRISTMAS-

-AND IT'S JUST ME AND THE MIGHT HAVE BEENS.

DOES ANYONE REALLY CARE?

Meyow?

MOMENTS LATER...

EH?

WHAT THE...?!

GET OUT OF HERE, YOU STUPID CAT!

YIP!

WAIT...

...I'M THINKING TOO MUCH LIKE A MAN!

DELILAH SAW I WAS SAD AND WANTED TO GIVE ME SOMETHING...

...AND WHAT WOULD BE A CAT'S IDEA OF THE GREATEST PRESENT IT COULD GIVE?

COME HERE, DELILAH.

MAYBE SOMEONE DOES CARE.

I THINK THERE'S A CAN OF TUNA LEFT.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU, TOO, DELILAH.

THE END

Christmas...

is normally a time of closeness, kindness to fellow beings and family gatherings...

...but not always.

Carnival Cinema

1	DRONE ALONE, TOO
2	Francis Drake Coppolla
3	QUACKULA

DRONE ALONE, TOO
NOW SHOWING

a MIKE SAGARA • CURTIS production

©1992 MIKE SAGARA & MIKE CURTIS

Wednesday Dec.17 -3am

=SIGH=

CHRISTMAS EVE WOULD BE ON A WEDNESDAY THIS YEAR...

...MY DAY OFF!

Diary...

TASIA

GONE WITH THE WIND

ALL MY EMPLOYEES WANT THAT DAY OFF, TOO...

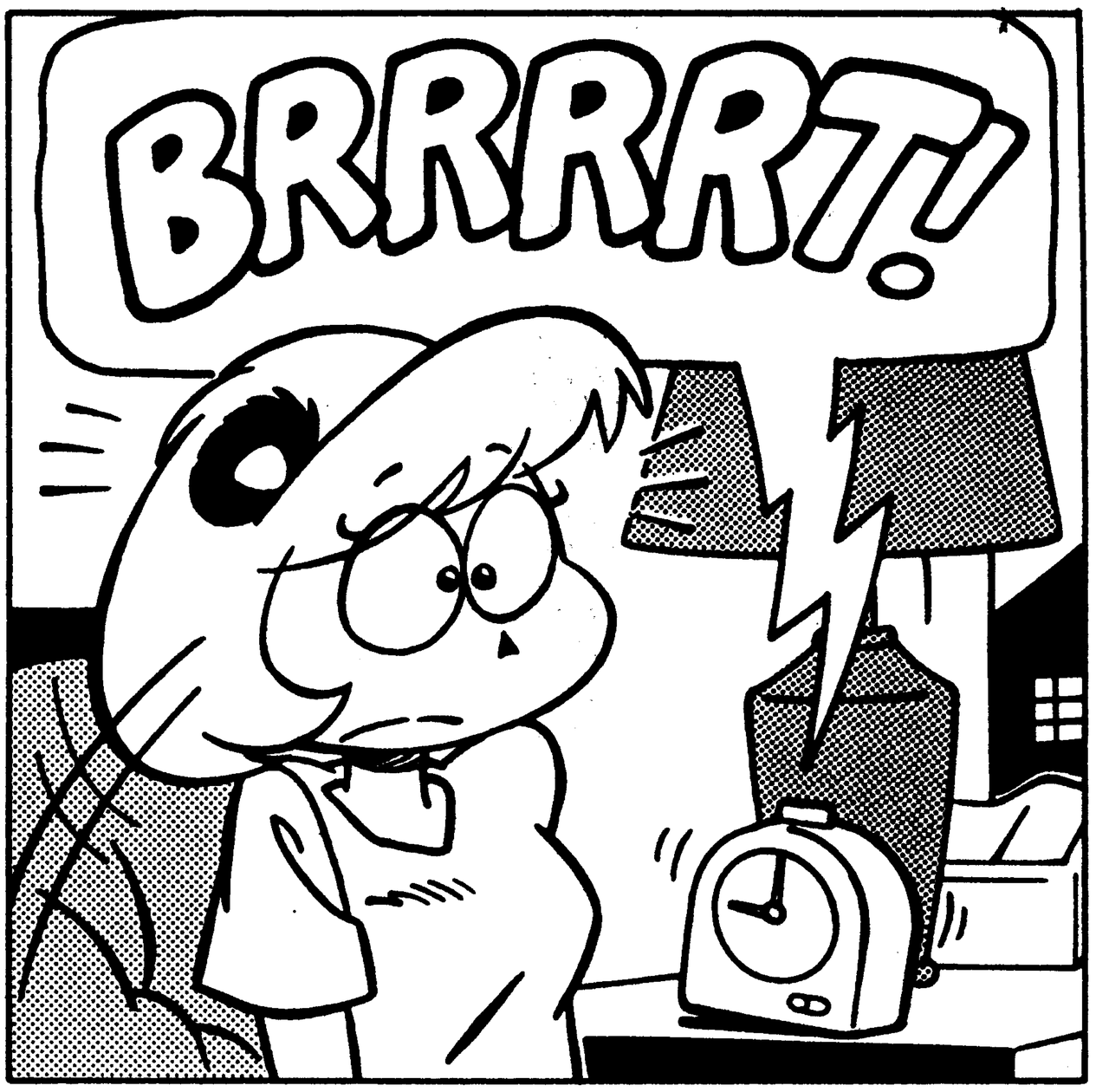
...BUT SOMEBODY HAS TO WORK WITH ME!

MAYBE I CAN GIVE CHRISTMAS EVE OFF TO THOSE WHO WORK CHRISTMAS DAY...

I'M SO SLEEPY... ZZZ...

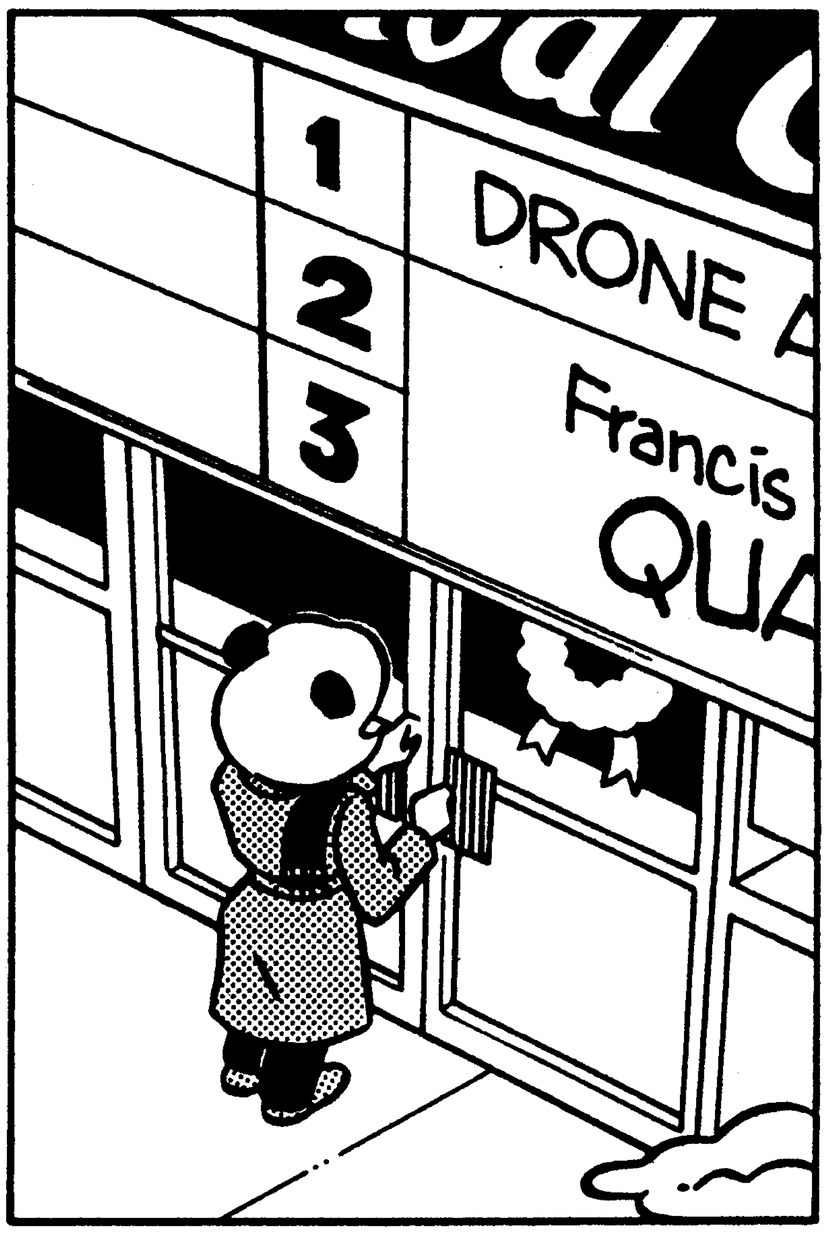
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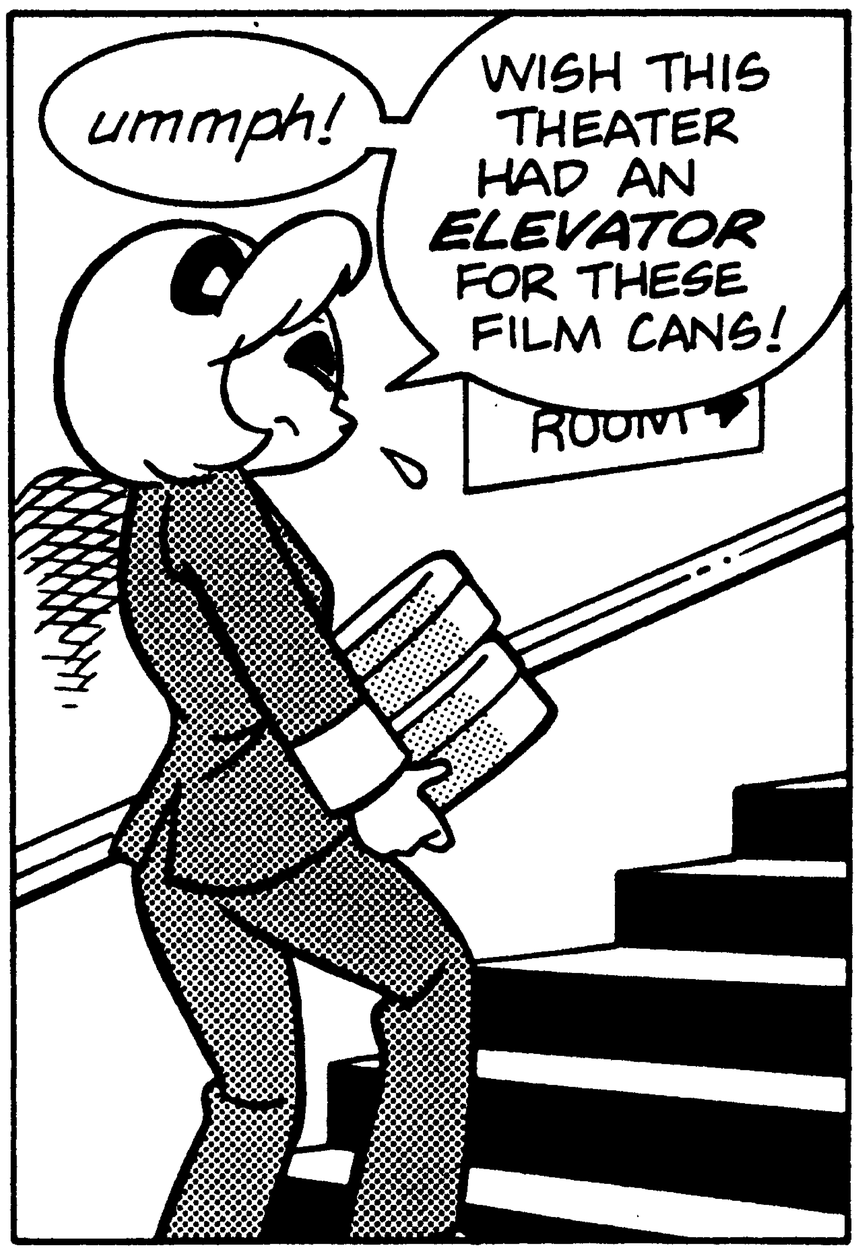

9am
ZZZZ


BRRRRT!


11am
SHOULD'VE GONE TO BED EARLIER...
...BUT THERE'S SO MUCH WORK TO DO WITH THIS PLACE!


MERRY CHRISTMAS!
THANKS... SAME TO YOU!
DRIVE TELLER


1
2
3
DRONE A
Francis
QUA


ummph!
WISH THIS THEATER HAD AN ELEVATOR FOR THESE FILM CANS!
ROOM


6pm
CRAP! I GOTTA WORK CHRISTMAS DAY!
hmm... I GOT THAT OFF, BUT I GOTTA WORK CHRISTMAS EVE!

MS. BRUIN, HOW CAN I GET OFF CHRISTMAS?

GET SOMEONE TO TAKE YOUR SHIFT... IT'S THE SECOND BUSIEST DAY OF THE YEAR...

...AND I'VE GOT TO HAVE A STAFF!

SOME CHRISTMAS!

MAYBE NO CUSTOMERS WILL COME CHRISTMAS!

FAT CHANCE OF *THAT!*

LAST CHRISTMAS I WORKED MY ASS OFF!

POP COR

YES, MR. BECKER.

NO, I HAVE NOT HEARD FROM THE CARPET PEOPLE...

SHANDA BRUIN

I'LL CALL!

WELL, LITTLE MISSY, YOU KNOW IT'S THE CHRISTMAS SEASON! YOU TELL YOUR MANAGER I'LL BE OUT AS SOON AS I CAN!

YES, I KNOW! AND I **AM** THE MANAGER!

PLEASE HURRY!

MS. BRUIN, CAN I GET OFF CHRISTMAS EVE?

I'VE GOT A LOT OF FAMILY COMING IN!

I CAN'T HELP IT, YOYO!

I DON'T WANT TO WORK EITHER, BUT I HAVE TO...

WE'LL HAVE A SKELETON CREW AS IT IS!

8

4

Midnight

DAY'S *FINALLY* OVER!

THINK I'LL STROLL OVER TO *EBONY'S* FOR A WHILE!

HI, TERRI!

HI, SHANDA! VERY BUSY TONIGHT?

I WAS! THE THEATER WASN'T!

WHY DO THEATERS OPEN *EVERY* DAY OF THE YEAR? *NOBODY* WANTS TO WORK!

I KNOW... AT LEAST WE'RE CLOSED.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SLEEP OVER CHRISTMAS EVE? I'LL FIX A BIG DINNER!

hmm - DON'T YOU HAVE SOME *GIRLFRIEND* STAYING OVER?

ha! DON'T YOU HAVE A *BOYFRIEND* STAYING OVER?

TOUCHÉ

SURE, I'LL BE THERE.

Christmas Eve
10 am

BRRT!

hmm!
SNOW!
HOORAY!

WISH THEY'D
CANCEL!
FAT
CHANCE!

I'LL BE HOME
FOR CHRISTMAS

MR. BECKER?
JUST CHECKING
TO MAKE SURE
WE'RE OPENING.

SHOULD'VE
KNOWN!

CHIPS

MERRY
CHRISTMAS!

%★%&★

DRIVE TH
BANKING

FIGURES!
CAN'T EVEN GET
IN THE DOOR
WITHOUT THE
PHONE
RINGING!

RING!

NO, MR. BECKER, THE FILM ISN'T HERE...I JUST GOT IN...

NO, I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM THE CARPETERS.

I'LL CALL AGAIN.

HEY, AL! SOME LADY WANTS TO TALK TO YA!!

NOW LOOK, HONEY! DON'T YOU REALIZE IT'S CHRISTMAS!!

SIR, I AM *MS. BRUIN*, NOT "*HONEY*"!

I *KNOW* WHAT DAY IT IS!

WE NEED THIS DONE WITHIN THE WEEK OR WE'LL HAVE TO LOOK ELSEWHERE!

RING!

AGAIN WITH THE PHONE?!

CARNIVAL TRIO.

YOYO? WHADDYA MEAN YOU CAN'T GET IN? *I* MADE IT IN!

GREAT! NOW I HAVE TO SET UP CONCESSION *AND* DO FILM!

HEY, BOSS! MERRY CHRISTMAS!

HI, LURCH! WE'RE THE ONLY ONES HERE! YOYO CALLED AND COULDN'T DRIVE IN!

BUY! CHOCO

hmmph! I FIGURE SHE JUST PARTIED TOO HARDY LAST NIGHT!

WE'LL GET BY!

I'M SURE!

FILM COMES IN ON THE 9am BUS? I'LL PICK IT UP!

SORRY, GOTTA GO... I'M SHORT A PERSON AND PEOPLE WANT IN!

SHOWING

I WANT A SENIOR CITIZENS TICKET FOR THE MOVIE!

WHICH ONE, MA'AM?

DOES IT MATTER?

=*sigh*= YES, MA'AM...

hmmph! NUMBER *THREE!!*

NOW SHOW

AND YOUNG LADY! YOU NEED TO GET SOME CHRISTMAS CHEER ABOUT YOU!

SHOWING

.....

CHRISTMAS CHEER...

WHAT IN *HELL* HAVE I GOT TO BE CHEERFUL ABOUT?

EVERYBODY IS CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS BUT *ME* --- LEAVE TONIGHT AT MIDNIGHT, PICK UP FILM AT 9am ---

EVERYBODY GETS TO BE WITH THEIR FAMILY BUT ME FOR CHRISTMAS! I'M STUCK IN THIS TWO BIT BURG AND CAN'T GET ANY RESPECT---AND EVERY-BODY AND THEIR THIRD DAMN COUSIN WISHES ME A **MERRY * FUCKING *** CHRISTMAS!!

HEY, BOSS! LURCH TO BOSS! YOU OFF IN THE TWILIGHT ZONE?

WELL, CONCESSION'S CLEAN---ONLY GOT FIVE PEOPLE IN ONE SHOW--- I'M TAKING OFF! HAVE A GOOD CHRISTMAS...WHAT'S LEFT OF IT!

THANKS, LURCH! MERRY CHRISTMAS!

DRAT! THE PHONE ALWAYS RINGS WHEN IT'S MOST INCONVENIENT!

RING!

MOM!

HI! I'M SO GLAD YOU CALLED!

HOW'S DAD? AND KERI? AND JAN?

YEAH, I'M STAYING OVER AT A FRIEND'S HOUSE---HER NAME'S TERRI...SHE'S REAL SWEET...

I LOVE YOU, MOM.

FINALLY GOT THE LAST ONE TO BED!

CINEMECCANICAS ARE SUCH A BITCH WITH REWIND TIME!

SOMEBODY STILL ON THE PAY PHONE? IT'S 12:00!

OH, MS? uh... WE'RE CLOSED... AND I NEED TO LEAVE...

OH! I'M SORRY!

M-MY CAR WON'T START--- I THINK IT'S THE GENERATOR! AND A TAXI WANTS $50 AND AN HOUR TO PICK UP ME AND MY SON...

CEDAR RABBITS

I'M SORRY! IS THAT THE TAXI MAN? CAN I SPEAK TO HIM?

SURE...

HELLO, SIR? THIS IS MS. BRUIN, THE THEATER MANAGER...

...I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU TO GO TO HELL FOR CHRISTMAS. YOU HEARD ME--- GO TO HELL.

MERRY CHRISTMAS.

I'LL GIVE YOU TWO A RIDE HOME!

LET ME MAKE A CALL FIRST!

BLESS YOU, MISS!

TERRI, I'LL BE THERE IN A FEW MINUTES...

...SANTA'S GOT A COUPLE OF DELIVERIES TO MAKE!

LOVE YOU! BYE!

Christmas...

is normally a time of closeness, kindness to fellow beings and family gatherings...

...and family is sometimes where you find it.

End

"it's the most wonderful time of the year..."

another screaming match started by, ended by, and lovingly transcribed by...

COOL SEASONAL IDEA #312...
Buy a bag of coal and wrap it in gift paper. Leave it where the kids know you keep the gifts hidden...

LookIT the Cat. KSC ©1992

BOY OH BOY! I CERTAINLY AM IN A GOOD MOOD TODAY!

WELL, THAT'S LOVELY...

NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE US, WE HAVE TO SHOVEL THE LAWN

ROSEBUD

I ASSUME THERE'S SOME SORT OF STORY BEHIND THIS...

NOT REALLY. IT'S JUST THAT ONE OF US IS TOO HOPPED UP ON EGGNOG TO REMEMBER WHERE HE BURIED MY LIFE'S SAVINGS!

MITT!

AND...

WELL, IF YOU MUST KNOW -- I NEED SOME PETTY CASH TO FIX THE GARAGE AFTER SOMEONE'S ICEBALL-AND-FROZEN-DIRT FIGHT!

MY HAT

FLAK

GEEZ. I'M REALLY SORRY TO HEAR THAT...

I'LL JUST BET YOU ARE... NOW, UNLESS YOU HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT-

MY HAT

THUNK!

OH, BUT I DO!! I HAVE A BIG SURPRISE FOR YOU ALL!

OOOH. IT WOULDN'T INVOLVE SENSELESS DEATH AND VIOLENCE, NOW WOULD IT?!

STUFF!

MERRY MERRY HOLIDAYS, OH MY CHILDREN!

POUFF!

GEK

... WELL?!

YEAH, RIGHT. AFTER LAST YEAR'S BROKEN-GLASS CHRISTMAS COOKIES? KISS MY FURRY BUTT!!

UMFF

AW, C'MON. I'M A CHANGED MAN. PAUL - GO AHEAD AND OPEN YOUR GIFT.

SHRED SHRED SHRED

NEAT! A NEW I.V. BOTTLE! THANKS!

KAK

SEE, PAUL OPENED HIS... NOW YOU TRY!

OH BE SERIOUS. PAUL HAS THE BRAINS OF AN INFANT SEA URCHIN. WE'RE NOT OPENING ANYTHING!

OOMF

YOU DON'T WANT TO BE REPRIMANDED BY THE GRUESOME BEAST OF INGRATITUDE, NOW DO YOU?!

SKRITCH SKRITCH

GULP

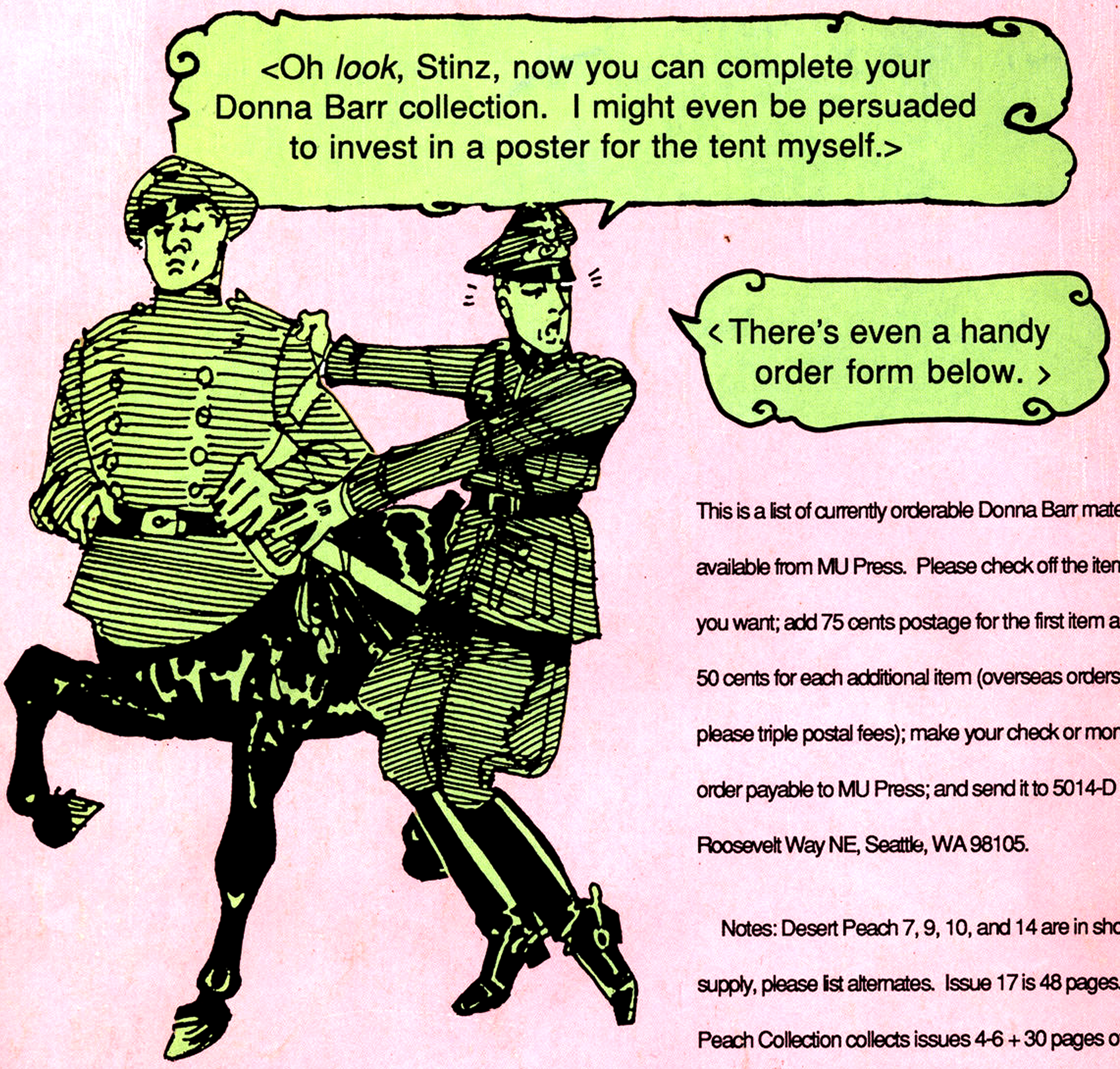
SEE, THEY'RE JUST PRESENTS! NOTHING NASTY ABOUT 'EM.

SHREDDA SHREDDA SHRED!

PLOP...

AND, AS A SPECIAL TREAT, I PROMISE THAT THE WRAPPING PAPER WON'T REACH CRITICAL MASS UNTIL AFTER THE STRIP IS OVER.

PFFT.



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Peach pin design



Udo pin design

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